(b) The estimated impact on the cost of import of crude oil as a result of devaluation of rupee for the period April to September 2001, as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, was around Rs. 425 per tonne.

Redevelopment of Mumbai High North

1614. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bombay High spews fire instead of just oil in oil regulator and ONGC lock horn over exploration strategy" which appeared in the Times of India, dated the 29th August, 2001;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the original schedule to carry out redevelopment for Bombay High North and for South separately; and

(d) the slippage in the schedule because of the differences between DGH and ONGC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The News-item regarding Mumbai High mentioned in part (a) of the question appeared in the Indian Express dated 29th August 2001, and not in the Times of India.

Mumbai High is the largest oil field in India and plans for its redevelopment had been formulated by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) in close consultation/concurrence with the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH). These plans envisage an incremental production of around 60 million metric tonnes of oil over 30 years time frame.

Redevelopment plans for Mumbai High North and Mumbai High South were launched in January 2001 and October 2001, respectively, and are scheduled to be completed by 2006-07. The scheduling of such large redevelopment plan is dynamic in nature and was mutually agreed between ONGC and DGH. The plans will be carried out in a modular fashion.